पैमाने पर 2.5 से अधिक न थी । दिल्ली, मुरादाबाद, सोहना तथा अरावली भ्रंशों के निटक स्थित है जो स्थानीय झटकों को उत्पन्न करते हैं ।

(ख) इन झटकों की वजह से जान-माल की किसी हानि की रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली हैं ।

(ग) स्थान, समय एंव परिणाम को ध्यान में रखते हुए वैज्ञानिक तौर पर खासी सटीकता के साथ भूकंप का पूर्वानुमान लगाना संभव नहीं हैं। भूकंप को रोकने का कोई भी प्रमाणिकता तरीका नहीं हैं।

**Smuggling of genetic resources**

1367. DR. MOHAN BABU:
SHRI SOLIPETA
RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether United States was indulging in large scale smuggling of India's genetic resources and then patenting them to the detriment of our economy; and

(b) the measures taken to check such activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No complaint has been received; genetic resources in the public domain are not patentable.

(b) A national legislation to regulate access to genetic materials is under formulation.

**Planetary Features Similar to Earth**

1368. DR. SHRIKANT RAMA CHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest finding that Jupiters moon, Ganymede has feature similar to the earth;

(b) if so, the information available with Government about this; and (c) in what manner will this information be useful for scientific research in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The spacecraft Galileo has been studying the planet Jupiter and its moon very closely for more than a year. The Ganymede is seen to have magnetic fields associated with it extending into the space. Scientists conjectured that its magnetic field may have its origin similar to that of the magnetic field of the earth. Such studies are of great interest and useful for scientific research in India to understand the origin of the magnetic fields of Planets, stars, galaxies etc.

**Autonomy to Scientific Establishments**

1369. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to improve the Research and Development in Science and Technology; and

(b) what steps are taken for more autonomy in scientific establishments in the country and taking them away from the bureaucratic framework?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Several initiatives have been taken to improve research and development in Science & Technology. Some of these are:

Increased support to S&T in successive Plans for pursuing R&D efforts through the various S&T